THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Assistance of Rs. 13.52 crores has been provided to the Voluntary Organisations, NGOs etc. functioning in North-Eastern region during the last three years and till date.

(b) and (c) 5 cases for releasing funds to NGOs in Assam are pending for want of required information from the NGOs/inspection report from the State Government.

(d) The NGOs and State Government have been requested to furnish the required information/Inspection Report.

Production and Export of Steel by SAIL

†65.SHRI D.P. YADAV: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of steel produced by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), so far, in the year 1999-2000, together with the quantum of steel exported during the same period last year;

(b) whether the quantum of production and export is higher than that of last year; and

(c) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) The production of Saleable steel and exports by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) (excluding IISCO) during April-October, 1999 as compared to the same period last year are as follows:

	1998-99 (upto October, 1998)	1999-2000 (upto October, 1999)
Production Saleable Steel	4746000 Tonnes	5505000 Tonnes
Export	255000 Tonnes	491000 Tonnes

(b) and (c) Yes Sir, The production and exports during the year 1999-2000 are higher by 7,59,000 tonnes and 2,36,000 tonnes, respectively, as compared to the same period in 1998-99.

Steel Production in SAIL, VSP and IISCO

†66. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

† Original notice of the Question, was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that the combined production of SAIL, VSP and IISCO has been short by 9.7 per cent of target production during the first half of current financial year;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken for improvement in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) Production of Saleable steel by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), Indian Iron & Steel Company Ltd. (IISCO) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (VSP) during first half of 1999-2000 against targets set by the Companies themselves are as follows:

Unit '000 Tonnes

	April-September		
	Target	Actual	% Fulfilment
SAIL MOU Group (SAIL-4PL, ASP, SSP & VISL)	4710	4685	99
IISCO	121	123	101
SAIL Group (Incl. IISCO)	4831	4808	100
VSP	1069	1078	101

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Losses Suffered by SAIL

67. SHRI K.K. BIRLA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that SAIL, which showed profits in 1995 96 suffered massive losses in 1998-99;

(b) if so, the extent of comparative losses suffered by SAIL since 1995 96, year wise;

(c) what are the reasons attributed to the continuous losses suffered by SAIL; and

(d) what measures have been taken by Government to check the losses and to improve the financial health of SAIL?